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OF THE

BOARD OF IMMIGRATION

4154

COLORADO TERRITORY.

FOR THE

TWO YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1873.

Transmitted to the Legislative Assembly January 5, 1871.

Denver, Colorado,
William N. Byers, public printer.
1874.



REPORT

OF THE

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Printed by Order of the Legislative Assembly, of Colorado Territory.

REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF JMMIGRATION,

Colorado Territory--1872-173.

Board of Immigration, Secretary's Office, Denver, December 31st, 1873.

To His Excellency, Hon. Samuel H. Elbert, Governor of Colorado Territory, Denver:

SIR:—In pursuance of the law creating the Board of Immigration for the Territory of Colorado, I have the honor to submit to you to be laid before the Tenth Legislative Assembly, a report of the transactions of the Board from its organization to this date.

The Board appointed by his Excellency, Gov. Edward M. McCook, consisted of:

Jacob F. L. Schirmer, of Arapahoe County; Edward P. Hollister, of Arapahoe County; David C. Collier, of Gilpin County; Jesse M. Sherwood, of Larimer County; Albert W. Archibald, of Las Animas County. These gentlemen met at the rooms of the Territorial Library, on the 20th day of February, 1872, and organized by the election of Jacob F. L. Schirmer of Arapahoe County, as President, and Edward P. Hollister as Treasurer of the Board.

On the 29th day of March, 1873, I received the following communication:

TERRITORY OF COLORADO, SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Denver, March 29th, 1873.

Geo. T. Clark, Esq., Secretary Territorial Board of Immigration:

SIR:—You are hereby directed to notify the members of the Territorial Board of Immigration that the membership heretofore held in said Board by Edward P. Hollister has this day been declared vacant, by reason of said Hollister's removal from the Territory, and for other good and sufficient reasons, and his commission revoked. William N. Byers has been appointed to the vacancy, and he has this day been duly qualified as the law directs for the discharge of the duties of said office, for and during the unexpired term of E. P. Hollister, removed.

Also: that the resignation of Jacob F. L. Schirmer, as a member of said Board, has been presented and accepted, and Fred. Z. Salomon appointed and commissioned to fill the unexpired term of said Schirmer. Mr. Salomon has filed his approved bond with the Secretary of the Territory, according to law, and is duly qualified to act as a member of your Board.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Territory, this 29th day of March, A. D. 1873.

[Signed], Frank Hall,

[Signed],

Frank Hall,

Acting Governor.

The Board now consists of:

William N. Byers, of Arapahoe County; Fred. Z. Salomon, of Arapahoe County; Albert W. Archibald, of Las Animas County; David C. Collier, of Gilpin County; Jesse M. Sherwood, of Larimer County.

DUTIES OF THE BOARD.

As contemplated by the act creating the Board, the members met on the 20th day of February, 1872, for the purpose of putting into execution such measures as would best promote and encourage immigration to Colorado. After due

consideration and discussion it was decided to issue a small circular at once, and as soon as possible to publish a large pamphlet on the resources of Colorado. Accordingly a circular was issued, entitled "Official Information on the Resources of Colorado," of which 25,000 copies were printed and distributed. On the 1st day of June, 1872, the pamphlet which had been prepared by the Board, consisting of thirty-six pages of closely printed matter was published and delivered to the Secretary of the Board for distribution, to-wit: 25,000 copies, entitled "Statement of Facts, prepared and published by authority of the Territorial Board of Immigration," which were mailed to all parts of the United States and Europe. Copies of the circular and pamphlet are herewith transmitted, and become part of this report.

At the meeting of the Board in January, 1873, it was thought advisable to make another issue, the former documents having been all distributed, and a great demand having been made on the Secretary for further information in regard to Colorado; therefore the Board authorized the preparation of another pamphlet. On the 1st of March, A. D. 1873, an issue of 20,000 copies of pamphlets, entitled " Resources and Advantages of Colorado," was made and distributed. At the same time the Board ordered the translation of 5,000 of the pamphlets of 1872 into the German language; copies of same are herewith transmitted and become a part of this report. These four documents comprise all of the issues of the Board. In addition to the above, the newspapers throughout the Territory have from time to time published descriptive articles on Colorado and the advantages to be derived from locating in the Territory. The Kansas Pacific Railway has in every way called attention to the advantages of Colorado in numerous publications. and has been of great benefit to the Board in its undertakings.

The Board desire to return thanks to the press of Colorado for its aid and assistance, and particularly to the *Rocky*

Mountain News for keeping an advertisement in its columns for two years free of charge. The Board has held twenty-four meetings since its organization, and every pains has been taken to so conduct its matters as to disseminate the most information possible at the lowest cost. It has tried to give every section of the Territory fair representation, as regards the advantages to be derived. It may have made mistakes, but they have been unintentional.

The duties of your Board of Immigration are really of such an extensive character that the amount of appropriation has been very inadequate to the extensive field that it might have occupied; though its present results have been so much more than even the most sanguine could ever have imagined. The class of immigrants which the Board has been the prime instrument of obtaining for Colorado, has been chiefly parties of some means seeking to better their condition by investments in property where the margin of trade is greater than in the locality from where they emigrated; also, a class of immigrants who are invalids, led hither by the health reports of your Board,-and to them Colorado is largely indebted for the immunity from the effects of the financial crisis which is operating so disastrously all through the eastern States. Most of the class of invalids have been wealthy, and have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in Colorado generally. To them, and the large amount of wealth they have circulated amongst us. we are indebted for the fact that our rates of interest are not higher during this crisis, than in many other places in the There has been no exaggerated inflation of real estate prices, so that trade and finance is in a most healthy condition.

All this work, which your Board of Immigration have accomplished, can be doubled and quadrupled in the future. In connection with your Board should also be connected a Bureau of Statistics for collecting and publishing interesting statistics of the growth and resources of our Territory.

We are very far behind the northern State of Minnesota in this particular, and we should hasten to repair the deficiency.

SECRETARY.

It was thought when the bill creating the Board of Immigration became a law, that there would be but very little for the Secretary to do except to keep the minutes of the meetings, and to mail the publications of the Board, which would require but very little of his time. In the year 1872 the correspondence of the Secretary amounted to about 2000 letters received and answered. There was mailed 25,000 circulars of the Board, and 25,000 pamphlets. the year 1873, owing to the large influx of settlers, he has been obliged to give it his undivided attention. All through the spring and summer months, his office has been the point where all inquiries have been made by those seeking employment and locations in Colorado. He has received and answered about 5,000 letters, issued certificates of reduction of fare to cover 4,000 people; mailed 25,000 copies of the pamphlet of the Board, besides several thousand other documents, published by colonies and kindred organizations, &c.

With this report the labors of your Board close, and in summing up the work performed in the last two years, they think it safe to say that they have induced a large immigration to the Territory through its publications and expended a less sum of money than similar organizations in other States and Territories. They would recommend the issue of another work on Colorado early in 1874, and also that the proceedings of the many conventions held in the Territory by irrigation, stock growing, farmers' club, health and other organizations which give facts in reference to the Territory be ordered printed and distributed with such a document as may be ordered published. Calls upon the Secretary for information are numerous, by mail and in person, but the last publication of the Board having been exhausted, he is unable to supply the demands. Herewith are transmitted

articles upon the wealth, health, population and general resources of Colorado, which are as accurate as they are able to obtain in the absence of a bureau of statistics.

By order of
The Board of Immigration.
GEO. T. CLARK,
Secretary. .

Denver, Colorado, November 15th, 1873. To the Board of Immigration:

GENTLEMEN:—In complying with your request to furnish you with facts in regard to Colorado as a Sanitarium, I must necessarily repeat in substance what I have stated upon the same subject in former papers. The altitude and geographical characteristics of different portions of Colorado have a marked effect upon the climate, and its adaptability to the various diseases and conditions of the human system; and therefore the Territory may be considered as climatically divided into two distinct parts, viz.: mountains and plains. The former comprising about one-half of the area of the Territory, and forming its western portion, consists of a succession of perpetually snow-clad ranges and peaks, separated by beautiful and fertile valleys and parks, which are from seven to nine thousand feet above sea-level, while many of the peaks attain an altitude of nearly fifteen thousand feet. It is well watered by clear, cold rivers and streams, which are rapid in their course, and abound with speckled trout. The forests are composed principally of pine and fir, which give a delightful and healthful aroma to the air.

Hot and cold mineral springs, possessing a great variety of medicinal virtues, are found in many localities. The atmosphere is a little moister than that of the plains, and is rare, clear, cool, and charged with an unusual amount of electricity. This region is unsurpassed in its endless

variety of grand and beautiful natural scenery, by any place in America. Persons desiring to escape the fatal diseases incident to large towns and cities in the summer months. may here gain not only health and comfort, but pleasure; those who are fond of botany may find in the abundant flora many of the rare and most beautiful plants and flowers, while those who have a taste for mineralogy, may also here find deposited almost every variety of the base and precious metals, from crude iron ore to the delicate frosted wire gold. Notwithstanding thousands of veins of the different kinds of minerals have been opened and worked, there still remain tens of thousands more hidden away in our hills and mountains, unfound and unclaimed. Primitive granite. hard enough for mill-stones, is stored here in mass, while upon the hillsides and valleys are found many precious stones, as white crystal, moss agate, topaz, onyx, opal, garnet, and amethyst.

Those of a sporting turn of mind can find amusement either in angling for the wary trout, or in hunting the swift-winged grouse, the nimble deer and mountain sheep, the stately elk, or the aggressive grizzly bear. It is here that the chest expands to its fullest extent, and the lungs fill to their utmost capacity at every inspiration, in order to secure sufficient oxygen for the æration of the blood; and owing to the lessened atmospheric pressure upon the body, capillary circulation is increased, and hence elimination and nutrition become more active.

With these qualities in such a climate,—its bright days inducing out-door sports; its cool nights bringing shing slumber,—it can be readily understood. 8.6 .17 short residence therein would cause the sport of the

one, two or three months' duratic thes: in 1872, 18.78 inches; in 1873,

Denver, guides, teams and camp equipage; while those who wish to enjoy the benefits and pleasures of the climate in luxurious ease, can go by rail to the foot of Pike's Peak, where are the soda, and the chalybeate springs, and large and commodious hotels in the midst of most enchanting and wonderful scenery: or, to the hot soda springs of Idaho, where comfortable quarters and every facility for bathing can be had in a lovely village, encircled by cloud-wreathed mountains, and in the neighborhood of the richest and most interesting mining district of this, our modern El Dorado. All of the springs are quite celebrated for their curative effect in rheumatic affections, as also for their tonic qualities.

The second climatic division of Colorado embraces the eastern portion, which extends from the foot of the mountains to the boundary line. It is an open prairie, or plateau, which varies in altitude from 3,000 to 6,000 feet above the level of the sea. It is watered by streams rising in the mountains, which are all swift in their courses.

The soil is dry and alkaline, free from boggy and marshy places, and "blossoms as the rose," with a great variety of flowers during the spring months, but is principally covered with a short, thick herbage, called buffalo grass, which usually dries into sweet and nutritious hay during the month of August. Trees are only found along the river or creek bottoms.

This portion has a pure, rare, dry air, bracing and exhilarating in its effects, warmed and softened by the rays of a genial sun, which is seldom shaded by clouds or hidden by stams, who ject to frequent changes of temperature, but speckled trough dampness at all seasons, fogs and dews pine and fir, which grant.

Hot and cold mineral than any explanation can give, is preof medicinal virtues, are g condensed record of the weather mosphere is a little mois during the past four years, kept by rare, clear, cool, and ch. Denver. electricity. This regio

	T	TEMPERATURE.			
YEARS AND MONTHS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Mean.	Bain and Melted Snow.	
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Inches	
anuary 1870	60	5	29.4	1.1	
ebruary "	. 64	I	33.5	1.7	
farch "	67	8	32.7	.79	
pril "	80	16	48.1	2.8	
fay "	86	40	56.1	.3	
une "	94	48	68.2	.5	
uly "	98	53	74.2	.5	
august "	97	45	64.8	.1:	
eptember "	89	40	60.1	2.8	
ctober "	83	27	47.8	.6.	
lovember "	68	20	41.8	.5	
ecember "	60	18	23.	.7.	
inuary 1871	67	6	34.5	.4	
ebruary "	66	13	38.5	.2	
larch "	67	10	46.	1.8	
pril "	80	25	50.1	1.0	
lay "	86	42	65.2	2.50	
ine "	97	56	74.9	.0	
ıly "	97	58	78.	.5	
ugust "	95	54	75.2	.2	
eptember "	86	45	66.5	1.1	
ctober "	85	24	53.5	.40	
ovember "	70	o	36.	3.10	
ecember "	55	2	31.3	.7	
nuary 1872	58	26	22.7	.8.	
ebruary "	64	9	34.7	.20	
larch "	78	4	39.4	2.4	
pril "	83	25	49.	2.3	
ay "	89	35	61.3	3.2	
ine "	97	49	69.	1.58	
ıly "	93	54	71.	2.4	
ugust "	94	52	72.	1.7	
eptember "	90	35	62.	1.4	
ctober "	88	19	53.6	1.30	
ovember "	69		35.8	.8:	
ecember "	60	5 8	28.	-32	
nuary 1873	62	22	31.	.14	
ebruary "	62	6	33.1	.24	
arch "	79	16	48.6	.17	
pril	82	I 2	44.	2.08	
ay "	86	35	58.9	.79	
ine "	93	57	72.	2.20	
ıly "	94	53	72.3	1.70	
ugust "	92	60	72.	1.40	
eptember "	86	32	60.3	.87	
ctober "	83	6	45.9	.70	
ovember "	70	2	41.2	.16	
ecember "	57	7	21.3	.60	

The rainfall in 1870 was 12.65 inches; in 1871, 12.35 inches: in 1872, 18.78 inches; in 1873, 11.05 inches.

As dry air is a non-conductor of heat, the changes in temperature here do not affect the system readily. of the diseases that afflict the human race are mitigated or cured by residence in Colorado, but in this letter it is only intended to speak particularly of those affecting the air passages. The malady called Hay Asthma has never been known, and those who suffer annually from this distressing disease in other climates, may here pass over the period of its attack without feeling a symptom of it. There is probably no other part of America where persons suffering from spasmodic asthma, unconnected with structural changes in the lungs and heart, find such speedy and perfect relief. Often those who have scarcely passed a night for years without experiencing a tightness and constriction about the chest, accompanied by labored breathing, though having used almost every known remedy for tranquilizing it, on their arrival here, breathe and sleep with perfect freedom.

Those who have organic disease of the heart, or lungs, or both, improve more slowly, and a very few, usually those advanced in years, do not experience any appreciable benefit. Cases of chronic bronchitis in the great majority of instances rapidly yield to the healthful influences of the place. Having myself been a sufferer from this complaint, with copious expectoration for several years prior to making my residence in Colorado, and having experienced here perfect immunity from it for a period of seven years, I know whereof I speak.

Of the thousands of consumptives who have come to Colorado in all the stages of all of the varieties of the disease, with the hope of an immediate cure, many have sadly failed to realize their expectations, and the effect has been to bring some disrepute upon our country as a resort for this class of invalids. A careful consideration of the effect of climate upon disease and the kind of cases that improve here, will, I trust, make it one of the most popular places upon the continent. The climatic influences upon the general health is stimulating and anti-scrofulous, and its

tendency upon the lungs is to correct abnormal secretion; to relieve irritability of the bronchi; to lessen local congestions and inflammations, and to calcify tuberculous or caseous deposits. The deep and full inspirations required here induce expansion of the chest and stimulate the absorptions of hepatizations.

It is my experience that a great majority of the bronchial, pneumonic and febivid forms of pulmonary consumption, readily give way to the healthful influences of the place. and that the embolic variety may be checked if the lesions are not too great and too many. To syphilitic phthisis the climate can only serve as an auxiliary to a judicious medical treatment. The tubercular or scrofulous consumption is the most common as well as the most intractable and destructive type of the disease, yet I can safely say that there are hundreds who came to Colorado in the first stage of the chronic form of this complaint, who are now enjoying all that pertains to a healthful life. I can not, however, say that every one who comes thus early will recover, for hereditary taint or acquired predisposition may be so strong that the disease will go progressively through all of its stages to a fatal termination. After the second stage has been reached, a few cases are arrested, and now and then there is one in which complete recovery takes place. for instance, a prominent railroad man came to this country in this condition in 1867. After one year's residence in which some improvement took place, he began to cough up bloody pus and calcarous concretions, the largest of which were the size of a white bean and fully as hard as common chalk. This was soon followed by a subsidence of the cough and restoration to health, and to-day he is a strong, able-bodied man, capable of great endurance. Acute pulmonary tuberculosis is too rapid in progress to be controlled or checked by change of climate. If there is great vascular irritability and excitement in any of the above mentioned forms, even in the first stages, it has been found that the climate is too stimulating, and that a warmer and

moister place like Florida, is better suited to them. I must strongly warn persons in the third stage of pulmonary consumption, or even after the breathing capacity has been diminished one-fourth, against venturing on to these elevated plains, because too great an increase of the action of the respiratory organs tends to hasten, instead of retard a fatal termination. The same cause is applicable to any forms of organic disease of the heart, excepting that induced by asthma.

The most desirable place of residence for consumptives is upon the plains, within twenty miles of the foot-hills, for this portion is protected from the dry north winds by spurs or divides from the main range; and furthermore, there is daily an interchange of currents of air between the plains and mountains, similar to the land and sea breezes upon the beach.

The mountain air is moister, and, mingling with the dry atmosphere of the plains, relieves it of any harshness it may possess.

I would advise those who have a decided predisposition to hemorrhage of the lungs, and others suffering from great debility, to avoid a too sudden transition from dense to light atmosphere, by stopping for a period of ten days at Wallace in Western Kansas.

To the young of consumptive families, Colorado offers special inducements, for here many a brilliant and useful life, that might be lost in a less salubrious climate before reaching the meridian of manhood, may be prolonged to a vigorous old age.

The wheat of Colorado is not surpassed in quality by any raised in the United States; and cattle in huge herds wander over the hills and plains, finding rich sustenance all the year round in the prairie grass; therefore, breadstuffs and beef are good, plentiful and cheap, which is an advantage to the country second only to its air, it being a known fact that in regions where abundance of good bread and

beef, with all their rich, blood-making qualities, are within the reach of every family, pulmonary consumption is rarely prevalent.

Denver and many of the large towns and colonies, afford excellent educational advantages, the privileges of good society and business opportunities in addition to their sanitary advantages.

I have observed that many of the epidemic diseases that extend generally through the Western States, have reached us, but in a very mild form. I would further state that contagious diseases become mild, as a rule, after one or two transmissions, which is owing, in my opinion, to the partial drying up of the emanations and fomites, and thus rendering them less virulent.

The climate throughout the Territory is almost free from malarial poison. No better proof of the general healthfulness of the country can be given than that furnished by the last health report of the city of Denver, which shows the death ratio of that place to be only ten (10) to every one thousand (1,000) inhabitants, a fact unequalled in any other city in the Union, the next in the scale being Rochester, which has fifteen to every one thousand, while New York has thirty-two, and New Orleans fifty-four to every one thousand.

The healthfulness of Colorado arises from its pure, dry air; its altitudes; its many bright, sunshiny days; its uniform and highly electrified atmosphere; and its brilliant and grand scenery, which produces cheerfulness and a con tented frame of mind. It is impossible for me, in this letter, to enter into detail in describing the many different diseases that may, or may not be benefited by a residence here. There are, however, but a few of the curable ailments in persons possessing a sound heart, that may not be relieved or mitigated by dwelling for a few weeks or months in this climate.

I believe that any person with a fair constitution, who settles in any portion of Colorado, stands a better chance of

enjoying a healthful life, and of finally attaining the full period allotted to man—three score years and ten—than in any other part of the Union.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, F. J. Bancroft, M. D.

POPULATION.

The Board, at its meeting in January, 1873, estimated from data at hand that the population at that date was 100,-000, and think it reliable and safe to say that it has increased 25,000 in the past year, making a population of 125,000.

In making this calculation, they take the vote of the people at the fall election, which was 20,544; it is safe to say from the information received that the registered vote was fully 25,000. Five thousand male adults, who arrived in the Territory too late to become voters at the fall election, would make a voting population at this date of 30,000. Taking the late United States census as a basis, the population was four and a half souls to each vote in 1870; at this date we believe it to be at least five souls, but at four and a half it would give a population of 135,000; at the same time the Board do not estimate over 125,000. The agricultural districts have gained the most population, although Park County has more than doubled.

The Secretary of the Board is daily in receipt of letters from parties in every State in the Union, in reference to settlement in Colorado, even this late in the winter. Committees of several colonies have called for information, and after examining the resources of the Territory, have decided to locate early in the spring. The Board, after careful estimates, feel warranted in saying that the population of the Territory will increase fully 30,000 souls in 1874.

As one evidence of the increase in the past year, they submit the following statement of the business of the Denver Post Office for the three quarters of the year 1873, ending September 30th:

Total Money-Order business has amounted to\$3	73,698	35
An increase of over 100 per cent, in past year.		
United States postage stamps cancelled on letters		
and papers from July 1st, 1873, to October 1st,		
1873	8,250	00
Sold during the same time	7,661	70

The last statement shows the influx of population, as all parties coming to Colorado bring stamps with them, thinking they may locate at some point where they can not be obtained.

The numerous Post Offices throughout the Territory have increased their business in like manner as the Denver Post Office. It is safe to say that the increase in postal matter in the Territory has been fully 100 per cent.

The following table will show the transactions of the Denver Post Office for the three quarters ending September 30th, 1873:

Unpaid letters\$	143	04		
Newspaper postage	984	75		
Waste paper	34	00		
Box rent	5,990	00		
Stamps and envelopes sold			* 0	
-			\$28,114	14
Route Agents and Messengers paid\$				
Department drafts paid	14,209	43		
-			18,597	59
Registered letters mailed	Ι,	588		
Registered letters received for delivery	3,5	584		
Registered letters in transit	13,0	96		

WEALTH OF COLORADO.

From the returns made to the Auditor of the Territory, of the assessed value of property in the Territory, we find that in the year—

1871, it	wasi	in round	numbe	rs	\$24,000,000	00
1872,	do.	do.	do.		31,000,000	00
1873,	do.	do.	do.	*******	36,000,000	00

Showing an increase of values, as assessed, of \$12,000,000, in the past two years. The full increase for 1873 can not be shown, for the reason that the assessment commences

on the first day of May of each year. The general improvements of all descriptions in the mountains and on the plains are usually made after that date. As an example, since the first day of May last, the valuation of buildings erected in the city of Denver alone exceeds \$1,000,000. It has been the same throughout all portions of the Territory. One hundred miles of railroad have been completed since that date; over one hundred miles of grading done for new lines; so that in railway building alone there has been an increase of over \$2,000,000.

Taking all the data at hand and from reliable information from all parts of the Territory, the Board think that they are safe in saying in this connection that the assessment at this date would reach \$50,000,000. The assessors throughout the Territory do not generally assess over 50 per cent. to 65 per cent. of the true value of the real or personal estate. In the matter of stock, roaming over such a vast area, it is conceded that about 60 per cent. only get on the assessor's roll. Leaving out the mines in our estimate of the true value of real and personal property in Colorado, the Board think they are safe at placing it at \$70,000,000.

The past year has been one of great progress throughout all sections of the Territory, and the great development made in all branches of industry has been astonishing and productive. The Territory levied no tax in the year 1872, and no tax has as yet been paid in 1873, and only a levy of one and a half mills made for the year. The Territory has no debt of any description, and a balance in the treasury. The Board think that they can point with pride to the financial and prosperous condition of Colorado; no community has felt the present commercial panic so little as have the people of Colorado. Around the commercial centres, within her limits, there is more real cash and stable convertible values than there is in any other community, taking population as a ratio. Her banks are all sound and unlimited confidence is reposed in them by the people; no cessation of business has been experienced; loans to depositors have been constantly allowed; interest on loans has scarcely received even a temporary excitement; real estate is continually rising through all the wild reports of the panic in the East; and merchants hold their positions in the community just the same as before.

AGRICULTURE.

Your Board would congratulate the representatives of the Territory in the great progress which has been made in the department of agriculture. The pre-eminence which has been shown in eastern markets for the article of Colorado flour alone is a source of great gratification. We are informed that large orders have been sent to this Territory from Boston for flour, which commands a higher price there than the flour of any other State or Territory in the United States. It has been well established, especially on the testimony of Mr. R. S. Little, of Littleton, that we can ship Colorado flour to Boston, with a very good margin of profit, thus opening a new market which cannot but give to the farmers an important inducement in raising wheat. Our flour commands \$12.50 per barrel of 200 pounds; the charges of shipment are not more than \$2.50, thus realizing \$5.00 per 100 pounds to the shipper. This will ensure to the farmer a remunerative price for his wheat and its conversion into flour; and will also encourage the building of a large number of mills. The yield of the wheat crop continues at about 25 or 26 bushels to the acre of average for irrigated lands; the steady increase of the wheat crop keeps pace with the increase of our population, and the area of cultivated lands, and as new facilities are offered for irrigating a larger area of land, and on a more economical basis. it is easily demonstrated that ere long, we shall assume the character of exporters rather than importers—which hitherto has been the case—and the balance of trade will be much in our favor.

Let any one take a tour of the valleys of the Platte, Clear Creek, Ralston, Boulder, the Big and Little Thompson, the Cache la Poudre, and down south on the Arkansas, the Huerfano, the Fountaine, and the rich and magnificent farms which are being constantly opened up, will show to him at a glance how rapidly and extensively the farming interest is improving. The numerous farmers' clubs, and organizations being formed all over the Territory, tell conclusively the growing wealth and power of this great branch of our resources. Scarcely a settlement can now be found in the whole of our broad agricultural area, where there does not exist an organization of farmers. They meet together to talk over their plans and compare notes how they can best economize the fruits of their labors, which must of necessity bring about new avenues of practical wealth. It is in the success of the farmers that the whole country will attain a large share of internal greatness.

The value of the agricultural crop of 1868, was not over \$2,000,000; in 1870, it was not much over \$3,500,000; in 1872, it was at least \$4,000,000; while in 1873, the estimated value of the crop is \$5,000,000.

IRRIGATION.

Owing to the popular cry of more ditches and more lands to cultivate, all classes of our people have been devising every means in their power to accomplish a net work or system of irrigation to cover the whole available expanse of our Territory. The different conventions which have met and the constant beseiging of the Government by prominent men who have visited our Territory, and the letters and newspaper correspondence upon the subject of irrigation, have at last obtained from the President a warm recommendation to Congress for the construction of an irrigating canal from the Rocky Mountains to the Missouri River, and the suggestion of an appropriation to make habitable to the pioneer farmer, what has been called "the desert wilderness" west of the Missouri.

PASTORAL AGRICULTURE.

This branch of our commercial wealth is constantly on the increase. The returns of the assessor do not give above one-half of the real value of our cattle and sheep. There are great numbers of them, particularly the former, that the assessor cannot reach, on account of the extent of the country over which they are herded, the owners, in a great "many cases, knowing that there is no possible mode of ascertaining the exact truth of returns, give very low estimates of the amount and value of their stock.

Every one upon visiting our broad pampas are struck with wonder at the immense herds of cattle and sheep, constantly improving in the quality of their breed, and gradually taking the place of the wild animals who have roamed over them for ages, and cannot but notice the difference in the returns of the assessors and the actual fact as displayed by a visit to the camps of the cattle kings. The gaunt, muscular frame of the Texas cow is being replaced, rounded and filled up with the sleek, rotund, straight-backed, deep-chested Durhams, Herefords and Devons.

The Jerseys and the Galloways are to be found here in considerable numbers; every day the herds of our blooded stock are receiving additions. Our sheep grazers are fast depleting the wild haunts of Texas of their large-bodied, degenerated, Mexican half-goat, half-cayote, and crossing them with the pure-blooded Spanish and French merinos, producing a fleece of a high value, and at a cost insignificant, indeed, as compared with the flocks of the Eastern States, and which will ever command for Colorado wool as high a status in the market, for quality as well as quantity, as is now found for Colorado wheat and Colorado flour.

The returns to the Auditor of the Territory show that there are 300,000 head of cattle and 315,000 head of sheep in the Territory.

From J. L. Bailey, Esq., President of the Stock Growers' Association of Colorado, we are authorized to state that at

least fifty per cent. can be added to the numbers thus returned, making 450,000 head of cattle and 472,000 head of sheep. Cattle, sheep and horses live and thrive the year round upon the native grasses of the plains. Only those that are used for work have to be fed, consequently the cost of raising stock in this region is very trifling compared with like expense in most parts of the county where they have to be fed during more than half the year.

RAILWAYS.

Commercial wealth, as a rule, always follows the wake of In 1861, and as late as 1866, the prediction that in the confines of Colorado "five railroads would be centered," was received with a sneer and a smile, but in a few years what a change has been witnessed in the physical development of our country. Now, in 1873, we have six railroads, making Colorado the focus of a railroad system which might form sufficient capital for many an Eastern State to indulge in self-congratulation and egotism. whole area of our Territory occupied as centres of trade and population, is permeated by some line of railroad. We have longitudinal lines connecting the North and South and latitudinal branches, either built or being built, radiating in all directions. As each new region of agriculture or mining is developing, the annihilation of distance by means of railroad, becomes an immediate paramount necessity.

We have now the following railroads in running order:

KANSAS PACIFIC, connecting Northern Colorado with St. Louis and Chicago, within our Territorial		
	2101	niles
boundary DENVER PACIFIC, forming a connection with the Union		inics
Pacific Continental Railway		"
DENVER & RIO GRANDE (narrow gauge) on its way		
to the Mexican coast, connecting Northern and		
Southern Colorado	162	66
COLORADO CENTRAL, opening up the great gold and		
silver region	41	66
Kansas Pacific, Kit Carson & Fort Lyon, open-		
ing up the old overland Santa Fé and Arkansas		

River Trail, and the rich country of Southern Colorado		"
DENVER & BOULDER VALLEY, from Denver to Erie,		
Valmont and Boulder, opening the rich mineral		
region of Caribou and Gold Hill	39	"
GOLDEN & JULESBURG, completed to Longmont, tra- versing the fine farming valleys of Northern		
Colorado	30	4.6
. Total	642	miles

THE MINES.

The following, from the pen of Hon. Frank Hall, represents our paramount industry:

Since the last session of the Legislature extraordinary strides have been made in the material development of the numerous mineral belts previously explored, and in the matter of discoveries hitherto unknown. The South Park, Hall's Gulch, Gold Hill, San Juan, Hardscrabble, Geneva Gulch, many parts of Lake County along the Arkansas river, and a remote district located near the "Mount of the Holy Cross," present notable illustrations of this latter fact, while the renewed activity everywhere exhibited in the more prominent of the older districts, has been marked by constantly increasing production of the precious metals. Many of the principal veins of Gilpin County, conceded by experienced native and foreign investigators to be the richest gold bearing section of its area in the world,—which, by reason of litigation, abandonment by their Eastern owners. and other causes, had for some years prior to the last biennial term lain wholly idle and unproductive, have at length been reopened, and their treasure poured into the channels of trade and commerce. Large numbers of veins on the mountain slopes, upon which the original discoverers and owners had made no further improvement than was required under miners' laws to hold them by record, have been occupied, opened and rendered available for the purposes of their creation. Similar advancement prevails in Clear Creek,

Park, Lake, Boulder, and Summit counties. Under its sustaining influence trade is prosperous, labor abundant and well paid, the population rapidly increasing.

New methods of working, improved appliances for the more certain and economical extraction of gold and silver from their matrices, combined with general concentration, and systemization of operative forces have been employed as powerful aids for bringing to the pursuit of mining the substantial progress it now assumes. Along the Clear Creek Valley from Georgetown and Empire to the eastern limits of the county, evidences of unusual activity are seen on every hand. The lodes are yielding large quantities of bullion, mostly silver, and capital is supplying the means for a much greater expansion of this industry.

In Park, Lake, and Summit counties the gulch miners, wisely availing themselves of improved systems adopted in California and elsewhere, have been enabled to work with greater facility than ever before, and with corresponding financial results. Many new discoveries of gold and silver mines in quartz have also been exposed during the year just closed.

Probably the most productive of the new districts is that known as "Mount Lincoln," on whose lofty and precipitous slopes untold wealth has been unearthed by the exertions of the restless prospector. The deposits are essentially different from any of those elsewhere made known among the mountains of Colorado, and form a valuable and most interesting feature of our mineral resources. ores are found in limestone formations which compose the exterior crust of the mountain, and in layers, or strata, (dipping to the east and into the mountain at an angle of twenty degrees) making the process of extraction easy, and from their great extent and richness highly profitable. The principal mine, and one highly characteristic of the limestone region, is the "Moose" mine. This mine, discovered in the Fall of 1871, has produced an enormous quantity of high grade ore, which has given a desirable impetus to the mining interest of Park County. The Territorial Assayer for that district has given some statistics, from which we see that the yield from this mine alone has been sufficient to not only pay for all the outlay necessary in developing the mine, such as building houses, constructing wagon roads, etc., but has also afforded a large profit to the owners. The character of the ore from this mine is an argentiferous galena with copper pyrites. The "Dolly Varden," "Hiawatha," and several other mines of this District are essentially similar in all respects, being stratafied veins and pitching with the limestone. The proximity of these mines to the extensive pastoral lands of the South Park affords an opportunity to the miner to supply himself with cheap beef, mutton and agricultural supplies. Two smelting works have been established and a third is in process of building near at hand, which furnish immediate markets, with lucrative returns, for ores of all grades. The hundreds called there by the advantages presented, caused the expansion of the small settlement of Fairplay into a large and active Early last autumn it was partially destroyed by fire, but will undoubtedly be rebuilt the coming Spring.

The next new district of importance is Gold Hill, situate in Boulder County, about twelve miles west of the County This fruitful section was occupied to some extent as early as 1859, and considerable prospecting done in the two or three years following that memorable epoch. was then practically abandoned until about the beginning of the past year when work was resumed. The town of Gold Hill, beautifully situated on the crest of the first range of mountains, overlooking the Boulder Valley, now numbers some three hundred actual residents; has from seventyfive to a hundred substantial buildings, two or three excellent hotels, supply stores, and other institutions suited to the wants of such a community. Among the more conspicuous producers of mineral is the "Red Cloud," the first in which tellurium ores were noticed, and which up to this time has yielded large quantities of it. The main shaft is

now something over three hundred feet deep, from which eight hundred feet of levels have been driven into the vein. In a recent communication to the Central City Register, Prof. J. Alden Smith, Territorial Geologist, published the fact that he saw in the office of the Superintendent, near the mine, a dozen or more sacks of mineral estimated upon previous actual products from a like collection to be worth about \$5.00 per pound, or \$10,000 per ton, and pieces could be selected from the lot that would yield at the rate of \$100,000 per ton in gold. "Besides this very rich material," he says, "there is raised a considerable amount of second-class, worth from \$400 to \$600 per ton, and very large quantities of third-class, worth from \$80 to \$120 per ton." The lode is of the character known to mining geology as a "contact vein," standing between a dyke of light gray porphyry on the north, and granite on the south side; is well defined, strong, and very large. Resembling it in general characteristics, and located within a few yards of the "Red Cloud," is the "Cold Spring." The shaft is 160 feet deep, carrying a vast amount of rich tellurides, distributed throughout a vein of crevice matter from ten to fifteen feet wide, a selected sample of which gave, by assay, \$133,500 per ton in gold and silver, or at the rate of \$66.75 per pound. The specimen from which this assay was made weighed seven pounds, and there was no metallic gold or silver visible in it, either before or after it was pulverized. Blocks of five to ten pounds weight are frequently taken out which are worth, that is to say, will yield, from \$5 to \$15 per pound. These two mines are undoubtedly producing, in quantity, the richest ores of any within our knowledge. A number of other veins, among them the "Forest" and the "Cash," though less extensively opened, indicate like character and value. The collection of minerals sent from there to the last annual exposition of the Colorado Industrial Association, excited the surprise and admiration of all who examined them. Several parties in England, experienced in mineralogy, attracted by reports,

sent agents to these mines instructed to carefully select and ship to them samples of all grades of ores, in order that they might determine for themselves the truth or falsity of their reputed value. During the year now begun this region will acquire a large increase of capital and numbers, and become one of our most productive fields of enterprise.

The Caribou District continues to be highly prosperous. The great silver fissure which gave the district its name was sold during 1873 to a company of Hollanders, under whose management it is now paying a liberal interest on the \$3,000,000 invested. Other mines in the neighborhood are being prosecuted with profitable results.

The interval of two years between the Ninth and Tenth Legislatures has witnessed the discovery of a point near the southwestern corner of our Territory, in the San Juan range of mountains, of a belt of mineral veins whose ores give evidence of great strength, richness and permanence. dreds have flocked thither, as is usual where excitement leads the way, but, as yet, little has been done beyond the extension of prospecting over a large surface of country, owing, measurably, to the lack of machinery for reduction, and its remoteness from the chief market towns thrifty settlements have sprung up. Many splendid lodes have been opened, and no doubt the succeeding twelvemonths will witness a heavy lodgement of people there. The Indian title to the lands so occupied has been, or soon will be, extinguished by the general government, and the whole of this immense and extremely opulent belt of veins thrown open to American enterprise.

In four of the leading districts, smelting establishments, wherein the crude material is reduced to bullion, are in full operation, producing, in the last current year, about \$3,500,000 of gold and silver. The largest of these, located at Black Hawk, is now shipping between four and five thousand pounds of nearly pure silver monthly, beside a vast amount of gold bullion. Other methods of treatment, operating in Gilpin, Clear Creek, Park and Jefferson

counties, have proven very successful. These advantages will be enlarged as the necessities of mining may demand.

Events are continually apprising us of the fact that the mineral resources of that portion of the Rocky Mountains included within our Territorial boundaries, are illimitable, and practically inexhaustible, embracing nearly every useful mineral known to science. Also, that as yet their development is scarcely more than entered upon. Each year brings to light new and wonderful discoveries, opens wide avenues to labor, and returns generous revenues to the country. While one class of people are engaged in producing, another turns its attention to the work of exploration, and no year passes without its rewards to both classes. Thus we are constantly expanding this particular branch of industry and as constantly offering lucrative employment to skilled and unskilled immigrants.

The laws of Congress, enacted for the better regulation of titles to this class of properties, imperfect as they are, have answered a much better purpose than those furnished by the Territorial Legislatures. Every claim now taken is made to cover fifteen hundred linear feet on each vein discovered after the passage of the act (1870) together with ample surface ground for buildings, machinery, waste piles, etc., while, under local laws, all claimants, except the discoverer, were limited to one hundred feet, and he to two hundred. The new arrangement conveys possession to a single claim large enough to be worked advantageously, under the best systems, by individuals or capitalized associations; avoids a multiplicity of ownerships which was the curse of earlier times; encourages improvement and secures to the prospector valuable rights not granted by the old usages. Miners may obtain government patents to their lodes, which not only gives them permanent and secure possession, but confers the additional blessing of taxation for the support of the State, a privilege not extended by statutes of their own making. On the tenth of June, 1874, what is known as the "forfeiture clause" of the Congressional Act of 1870 takes effect. It provides that all claims not patented nor protected by applications for patents, or represented by a certain amount of improvements during the previous year, shall be forfeited to the government, and subject to relocation by any one who will supply the deficiency. This evidently means that the mines are to be worked and not held for an indefinite period as unproductive properties by the tenure of a simple record. Its enforcement will obliterate thousands of paper titles, and afford the industrial classes many opportunities for acquiring valuable gold and silver mines, beside giving new impetus to development.

It is impossible to comprehend within the brief space allotted to this department, anything more than a mere outline view of the condition of this great branch of industry. That it is remunerative, wherever conducted according to correct principles, such as obtain in all other channels of production in established centres, is abundantly demonstrated by the results achieved, and it is equally certain that the increase of yields from year to year is indicative of steady progression. With the passage of time come the valuable deductions of experience, which we are permitted to use as forcible instruments to our further advancement. The revelations of science, judiciously applied, furnish new power for the accomplishment of ends hitherto unattainable. The annual importation of skilled laborers, now becoming an essential part of the fixed population of all mining sections, brings another substantial element of prosperity. But the field is broad, capable of indefinite expansion, furnishing homes and employment to thousands. It is a field in which competition benefits every member of society, and in which there is no obnoxious rivalry. Fire has taken the place of water and iron stamps in the treatment of refractory ores, how successfully is evidenced by the increasing demand upon it, and the growth of those towns where it is employed as a reducing agent.

From the foregoing facts it may be safely predicted, we think, that within the next biennial term, the five millions in gold and silver produced in Colorado during 1873, will be doubled in the present fiscal term, and that the number of people actively engaged in mining, and supported by it, will be increased an hundred fold.

COAL FIELDS OF COLORADO.

The following article, written by F. F. Wagenen, of Georgetown, fully represents one of the most beneficial and profitable resources of Colorado:

The area of land known to be rich in coal deposits in Colorado is about 7,200 square miles, lying in various parts of the Territory, on both sides of the main range. There can hardly be a doubt but that this extent will be largely increased in years, for new discoveries are constantly being made upon the foot-hills and plains.

Our coal lands may be separated under heads depending more upon their geographical position than upon the character of the fuel, viz:

First—The Northern mines.

Second—The Eastern foot-hill mines.

Third—The Southern mines.

Fourth—The Summit County mines.

Fifth—The Conejos County mines.

Of the first but little is known. Weld and Larimer counties are undoubtedly underlaid by

VEINS OF LIGNITE

similar to those of Wyoming, which are at present furnishing an excellent fuel for steam engines, domestic purposes, and for some metallurgical processes. Coke made from the Wyoming coal fields was tried at both Golden and Denver for smelting silver and gold ores, and though subsequently discarded in favor of Pennsylvania coke, is considered to be a fair fuel.

The Eastern foot-hill mines embrace the viens outcropping in Boulder and Jefferson counties, nearly all of which have been known since the early days. They are producing at present three-fifths of all the coal mined in Colorado, which is about 120,000 tons, and being located nearer the centre of population than any of the other fields, will probably hold this prominent position for a long time. Among the noted mines are the Murphy, Marshall, Eric, and Davidson.

THE MURPHY VEIN

stands nearly vertically, with an occasional dip to the east or west. Its course is about north 20° west, magnetic, and its thickness from twelve to eighteen feet of solid coal, with scarcely a parting of shale or slate. The main workings now lie mostly upon the north side of Ralston creek, which has cut through the bed and exposed its outcroppings very markedly on either side. Nearly 2,000 feet of the vein is opened, and, in fact, much more work has been done than the cut indicates. The coal is a very good sample of the product of all the foot-hill mines. It is an altered lignite, that burns freely, and crumbles quickly on exposure to the rain or moist air; burns well under the boiler and in the grate, and answers excellently for most of the uses to which mineral fuel is put.

THE ERIE BED

lies nearly flat, dipping to the east. It is operated by the Boulder Valley Coal Company and furnishes most of the fuel used in Denver and Boulder City. It is the most extensively worked vein in Colorado, and yields a fuel that is considered rather purer than any other of the neighboring beds. The Marshall vein is supposed to be a continuation of the Murphy to the north, and it is of a very similar character in almost every respect. The Davidson vein was struck in the latter part of September, of this year, at a depth of 530 feet below the surface. It is twelve feet thick, and when exploited, is very liable to furnish a denser class of fuel than any yet taken from the Colorado plains.

East of Denver, along the line of the Kansas Pacific, indications of coal are not wanting. The same formation that is found along the foot-hills, tilted up in a nearly vertical position, underlies the whole of eastern Colorado, which is one vast lignite basin, containing stores of truly precious mineral. It is not too much to place the probable coal area of the Territory at 100,000 square miles.

THE SOUTHERN MINES

embrace those of Trinidad, and Fremont County, and furnish a class of mineral entirely different from any yet found in the Territory. The latter are the oldest and best known mines, and have, at times, produced at the rate of one hundred tons per day. Their present production we are not aware of, though it can hardly have decreased, as the demand for it is great, not only for household use, but for the manufacture of gas in Denver.

THE TRINIDAD MINES

furnish a coal similar in many respects to that of Cañon City. The following extract from a paper read before the American Institute of Mining Engineers, which we clip from the *Engineering and Mining Fournal* of the 18th, will be of interest, as showing the latest results of attempting to coke Colorado coals:

"I present herewith for the inspection of the members of the Institute a specimen of coke, made in gas retorts from the lignites of Trinidad, Colorado.

As far as I am aware, this is the first good coke for smelting purposes made from lignite alone in America. It has, so far, always been found necessary to mix bituminous coal from the coal measures proper, tar, or similar materials, with lignites, in order to produce a coke, which even then was in most cases only an indifferent fuel for the shaft furnace. As you see, the coke here presented will answer for all purposes of lead and copper smelting in shaft furnaces, and if made in proper coke-ovens, it will probably be sufficiently dense to carry the high smelting column of the

iron blast furnace. The second piece of coke, in which pieces of charred coal are seen held together by a regular coked material, is made from a mixture of three parts of Cañon City and one part of Trinidad lignite. It is sufficiently firm for use under the retorts and for household purposes, while the residium remaining in the retorts, when Cañon City lignite alone is used, cannot be employed for any such purpose, as it does not swell at all, but retains the structure of the coal and breaks into pieces of less than a cubic inch in size. By effecting the above mixture the whole residium has now a market value, and an excellent gas is produced at the same time. The specimen of Trinidad lignites presents, as you see, no marked characteristics which would distinguish it from bituminous coal.

One pound of it furnishes 4.25 cubic feet of purified gas, without the use of an exhauster, and fifty-five per cent. of the coal remains as coke.

COST OF MATERIAL.

Trinidad, where this coal occurs in tertiary strata, is nine-ty miles south of the present end of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, and for that distance the lignite is now brought in wagons. This brings the cost of a ton in Denver at present up to \$20, which is, of course, too high a price for metallurgical purposes. But the gas works at Denver find it to their interest to use it even at present, together with Cañon City lignite, which costs \$7, in the proportions above given. The Trinidad bed is reported to be from four to nine feet thick, the extent not being stated. Mr. Wm. J. Fay, superintendent of the Denver gas works, reports that there is very little sulphur in this material.

The importance of this bed for the metallurgical interests for the Far West cannot be over-rated, when we know that at present Eastern coke costs at Denver \$22, and at Salt Lake City, \$30 per ton. It is expected that the Rio Grande Railroad will reach the locality in less than six months, when the coal can be laid down in Denver at about \$8 per ton."

THE SUMMIT COUNTY MINES

are not worked by any parties, and it is doubtful even if the beds have been claimed or taken up, as they have only lately been brought into notice. The report of the survey lately made by Mr. Brune furnishes almost all that is known of these deposits. They are located on the divide between the Bear and White rivers, and consist of several seams varying from five to fifteen feet in thickness, which, owing to the contorted state of the strata, lie in a variety of positions, from a strict horizontal to a perfect perpendicular. Above is a stratum of sandstone, varying from one to three hundred feet in thickness.

The coal is of two kinds, one a hard lignite and the other similar to what is called albertite, a mineral fuel of great value as a gas generator.

It will be a long time before those deposits prove of any intrinsic value, on account of the thinness of the population in Summit County, and their distance from any railway or market. The country north of this divide, according to Mr. Brune, is capable of sustaining a large agricultural population, and, in addition to this, there will, in time, spring up extensive smelting interests along the western flank of the Range, both of which industries will create a demand for mineral fuel, which can be more cheaply supplied by these mines than by any other now known in that region.

THE CONEJOS BEDS

are also new discoveries of which but little are known. Sufficient outcroppings of coal have been noticed below and west of the town of Las Animas, or Elbert, to indicate the existence of extensive lignite deposits there. The mines are hardly opened yet, but situated as they are, not more than thirty miles south of the centre of the San Juan gold and silver district, it will be but a short time before their product will be called for, should they prove suitable for metallurgical purposes.

THE PUBLIC LANDS OF THE TERRITORY.

There are about sixty-seven millions of acres of land contained within the geographical area of the Territory. We are not able to state accurately how much of the public domain has been appropriated up to this time. But from the best sources of information at hand, it is believed, that about four millions of acres, exclusive of the lands reserved to the Indian tribes, have passed from the control of the General Government.

The lands now reserved for the use of the Indians will, in the course of time, as they have elsewhere, pass into the possession and control of the people. The eastern slope of the mountains, extending to the Kansas boundary, comprises about one-half of the area of the Territory, or about thirty millions of acres. About three millions of acres have passed under the control of the Denver Pacific and Kansas Pacific Railway Companies; and about one million of acres appropriated under the preëmption and homestead laws of the United States, and purchased at public and private sale, mostly at the nominal price of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. It will, therefore, be seen that there remains subject to the occupation of the settlers, about twenty-five millions of acres east of the summit of the mountains.

A large portion of the public domain heretofore considered undesirable, as in the earlier days of the Territory they were all so considered, are now eagerly sought after, and in all parts of this immense region wherever water can be carried from the streams over these lands, the fertile earth yields up to the industrious husbandman, in every year, an increase of thirty, fifty and an hundred fold. All of the unoccupied public domain invite the preëmption and homestead settlers. Thousands of acres can be profitably used for arable agriculture—immense tracts are valuable for the useful timber with which they abound, and the residue will be occupied almost exclusively for pastoral purposes for generations to come.

COMMUNICATIONS

FROM

Corresponding Secretaries.

JEFFERSON COUNTY.

County of Jefferson, Golden, Colorado, October 8, 1873.

Mr. George T. Clark, Secretary Board Immigration, Denver, Colorado:

· SIR—Your letter of September 25, 1873, asking information of this county for the Board of Immigration, received and noted.

First—How much has the population of your county increased during the past two years?

The population of this county from the most reliable information which can be obtained in the year 1871 was 3,000, and the population July 1, 1873, was 7,000, making a gain in two years of 4,000. This gain is rather under than over.

The population at the present time is about 7,500.

Second—How much land has been taken up in the past two years in your county?

From reliable statements of the officers of the county about 7,000 acres have been taken up in the years 1871 and 1872.

Third—What vocation has most of the new settlers engaged in?

About one-third have engaged in agricultural pursuits; one-third in mercantile and mechanical, and one-third in mining and railroad business. About one-fourth are men of capital.

Fourth—What increase has been made in the crops of your county during the last two years?

The number of acres under cultivation in July, 1870, 20,478, and the number of acres under cultivation July 1, 1873, 24,835. Increase of agricultural production from July 1, 1870, to July 1, 1873, \$192,126; the improvements in ditches in 1873 will very much increase the number of acres for cultivation and agricultural production in 1874.

Fifth—Amount of improvements made during the past two years?

\$2,278,116 assessment in 1873. 1,510,610 assessment in 1871.

\$767,506

Showing an increase of \$767,506 in the past two years. The tax for county or Territorial purposes in the year 1871 was twenty-six mills; in 1872, twenty-one mills, and in 1873, nineteen mills, making Jefferson county orders worth from eighty to eighty-five cents on the dollar.

This improvement consists in the value of important and paying railroad lines, constructed in our county; manufacturing establishments of county and Territorial importance; coal and copper mining—the copper mines not being fully developed. Professor Old has stated in his last mining report that "the copper mines of Jefferson county are superior to any yet discovered in the Territory." Smelting works, fire-brick and common brick manufactures; lumber yards, saw mills, hotels, churches, school buildings, business blocks and dwelling houses.

With our railroad lines, the development of mineral and agricultural resources, the organization of school districts

and the great interest manifested in the cause of education—the increase of population, and many other advantages, seem to give our new settlers, as well as the old ones, entire satisfaction, and especially the advantages of our climate for health. Many who come to our county only as visitors have determined to make their *homes* here on the question of health alone; and as an evidence of our prosperity the character of the improvements made are of the very best character.

This briefly answers the questions of which you ask information.

I believe that the Board of Immigration would advance their object very much by requiring each county officer of the Board to prepare in detail a circular containing a full and true description of the resources of their counties, and the advantages which each can offer to those who desire to make their homes in our Territory. With this information the immigrant coming west would be better prepared to choose a county adapted to his labor and capital. In the past two years many have located in the towns of the Territory, and not enough in the mining and agricultural districts. We have in our Territory labor for a large number of mining men and lands which need cultivation, and which yield more to the acre than any Eastern State, and all that is raised finds a cash market, at good prices, requiring small capital to cultivate the soil, and giving in return a large per cent. clear gain to the farmer.

Very Respectfully,

M. C. KIRBY.

Corresponding Secretary for Jefferson County, Colorado.

BOULDER COUNTY.

Longmont, September 27, 1873.

Geo. T. Clark, Esq., Secretary Territorial Board of Immigration:

SIR:—Yours of 24th inst., at hand; in reply would say:

Our population has probably increased 1600 in past two years; is now about 6,000 in the county.

Could not give even a guess at how much land has been taken up; you can learn that at the land office.

New settlers have been pretty equally divided between miners and farmers.

The wheat crop has been about doubled, but the oat and potatoe crop has decreased some. Corn has increased say fifty per cent.

As to improvements made, that is hard to get at. The assessment has just about doubled, but that includes the increased value of property by reason of railroads, etc. I should say that the value of improvements in past two years would be about \$400,000.

The people are not only generally *satisfied* but are very much *pleased* with the country.

I have endeavored to make my estimates *low* as I think it a bad plan to over-estimate a new country.

Your last pamphlet gives our towns altogether too many inhabitants; we havn't got them. But we have got the country to support any number of people who have a mind to come here.

I suppose it is unnecssary to call your attention to our two railroads, one having a terminus at Boulder—the other at Longmont.

Population is increasing much more rapidly this Fall than ever before. In my estimate of population above, I have only given those who have acquired a residence here.

Very truly, etc., John H. Wells.

LARIMER COUNTY.

To Hon. Geo. T. Clark, Secretary Board of Immigration:

Sir:—In answer to your communication of the 23d inst., I have the honor to make the following report:

The population of this County according to the census

taken in 1870, was 1,000 souls. The present population numbers 3,500, showing an increase of 2,500, mostly within the past two years. I cannot give you an accurate estimate of the amount of land taken up; from no record here can I obtain information. However, by examination of the records in the land office in Denver, correct figures can be obtained.

An extremely large proportion of the incoming immigration are engaged in farming and stock raising. Those engaged in the latter business are located on the smaller streams and tributary to the Cache-a-la-Poudre in the mountains. The farmers are nearly all confined to the valley of the Cache-a-la-Poudre and of the Big Thompson.

Some immigration has settled at Fort Collins, principally due to the efforts of the Land Improvement Company and Colony; of this class, most are mechanics and laborers.

It is somewhat difficult to form an estimate of the amount of grain produced yearly,—the increase or decrease in the crops, or any item whatever connected with agriculture, and here I desire to put in a word of recommendation. I think the Board of Immigration should recommend to the Legislature the passage of an act requiring all who return an assessment list of property to give in on said list the amount of land cultivated by them the preceding year, the amount and kinds of grain, etc., raised per acre, etc.; these items to be returned by the County Assessors on their assessment books. This would be of no additional expense to the counties, and would furnish interesting and very useful information. It is safe to say there has been a steady increase of cultivated land, a probable increase of one-fourth every year.

The taxable property in this County in 1870 was \$343,000; in 1871, \$450,000; in 1872, \$560,000; and in 1873, \$800,000, which does not include \$250,000 railroad lands. This shows an increase during the past year of \$240,000.

This increase in value is owing to improvements on wild lands, such as fencing, breaking, etc,, improvements on

farms and town property; the importation of stock of all kinds and the advent of a stable immigration. Many thousand dollars have been laid out in constructing new irrigating canals, repairing and enlarging old ones upon which no taxes are paid, and are therefore not included in the aggregate.

It would hardly be doing justice to our many advantages of climate, soil, etc., not to mention the many trumpeted attaches of our prosperous colony, to arrogate to the Board of Immigration the whole credit of our unequalled success and steadily increasing flow of immigration, but I am well satisfied and will bear witness to the efficient aid the Board has rendered us in obtaining our share of this immigration, and a debt of gratitude for their untiring and disinterested efforts for the welfare of the Territory.

Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

Larimer County, Col. CHARLES C. HAWLEY.

EL PASO COUNTY.

Office of the Colorado Springs Company, Colorado Springs, Col., September 26, 1873.

George T. Clark, Esq., Secretary Colorado Board of Immigration; Denver, Colorado:

DEAR SIR—Your favor of 25th instant is received, and though I have no statistics from which to gather the information asked for in reference to El Paso County, I give the following facts in relation to Fountain Colony:

The Colony tract, or property, embraces about 9,650 acres, and covers an area of four miles in length, by two miles wide in this locality, and a section of land at Manitou (five miles west of here) where our Springs are located. A small settlement of permanent residents is established at Manitou, and a large hotel is also built there for the accommodation of the numerous and rapidly increasing

tourist and invalid class. This town (Colorado Springs) is, however, what may be called our central point. Our Colony system was started about two years ago, and the town then staked out. It has been only twenty months since the first house was finished, and previous to that time, our property was only inhabited by a few ranchmen. development, therefore, has all taken place within the last two years contemplated in your inquiry. Our town now numbers several hotels, churches, public halls and billiard rooms, two schools and telegraph offices, besides railroad and freight depôts, flouring mills, manufacturing establishments, and a large number of stores and shops, representing most of the commercial and mechanical interests. Our largest establishments sell over \$100,000 per annum each, and our two banking houses are well established and profitable. Business generally is highly prosperous, and prospects bright.

Our plan has been to issue memberships which are of four grades, viz: \$50, \$75, \$150, \$200. These memberships are payable cash down, and are generally taken out by heads of families. They entitle the holders to locate property of a certain value (about twice the cost paid therefor). The amount due for property, so located, is payable one year from date, and the cost of membership is deducted in final payments of said property. Our first membership was issued in August, 1871, and we number up to 525 memberships at present time. With foregoing as preliminary, let me now answer your questions as relating to Fountain Colony.

First and Second—Present population (all within two years) about 2,100 or 2,200; number of houses in town from 400 to 500.

Third—The property laid off in town lots (two miles long and half mile wide) is more than half sold, and in addition about 1,000 acres of outlying tracts and Manitou property.

Fourth—All vocations are fairly represented, with, perhaps, fewer farmers than others.

Fifth—We have not had time to develope in agriculture, but experiments are gratifying, and almost any grain, fruit or vegetable, can be successfully cultivated, and will be.

Sixth—Value of present improvements at this point from \$600,000 to \$750,000; value of present improvements at Manitou about \$200,000.

Seventh—A dissatisfied colonist is rarely met with!

Yours truly,

GERALD DECOURSEY, Sec'ty.

SAGUACHE COUNTY.

RITO ALTO, SAGUACHE COUNTY,
COLORADO TERRITORY,
October 24, 1873.

Mr. George T. Clark, Secretary of the Board of Immigration, Denver, Colorado:

SIR—In answer to your letter dated September 23, 1873, requesting information upon certain questions therein contained relating to the condition and statistics of the county, I have to say:

First—The population has increased 300 persons in past two years.

Second—Present population estimated at 700 persons, not including Indians.

Third—50,000 acres of land have been taken up since January 1, 1872.

Fourth—Many of the new settlers have engaged in raising live stock, dairying and farming.

Fifth—The farm crops have not increased proportionately with the population, but the value of the crop of 1873 is estimated at fifty per cent more than the crop of 1871.

Sixth—Value of improvements made in past two years estimated at \$200,000.

Seventh—The people are satisfied with the country so far as known.

Eighth—A saw mill is now in operation on Saguache Creek, and flour mill will soon be completed.

A new town named "Loma," situated on the north bank of Rio Grande River, where the road from Saguache to Conejos crosses the same, is rapidly increasing in population and importance, deriving its prosperity principally from the San Juan mines, and future prospects, which are certainly very bright.

Loma has a rival—Del Norte—on the opposite side of the river in Conejos county.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred. C. Morse, Corresponding Secretary.

GREEN CITY, Col., December 6, 1873.

To the Hon. Board of Commissioners of Immigration of Colorado Territory:

GENTLEMEN:—I have the pleasure to make to your honorable body, as agent of immigration for the States of Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina, my second annual report, as follows:

I had the honor in my first report to state, in detail, the favorable colony rates of transportation I had obtained from the Union Pacific Railroad, and its pro-rating connections east, to Cheyenne; but I regret to say that whenever a colonist reaches the latter place (Cheyenne) en route to Colorado, he is required to pay full rates for all extra baggage, and about ten cents per mile for transporting himself or any member of his family over the Denver Pacific Railroad; That is to say, nearly five times as much as the average fare charged to Cheyenne by so-called foreign corporations! I am gratified to state, however, that upon the completion of the Colorado Central Railroad to Julesburg, this extortionate charge upon colonists and immigrants will be avoided by taking the latter route to Denver and other points of destination in the Territory, which change will contribute

largely to settle and develop the valley of the South Platte and its tributaries.

You were informed in my last report, dated July 1st, 1872, that up to that date more than one hundred colonists (exclusive of their families) had emigrated to our Territory under this arrangement, and that several hundred more had purchased property in Colorado, and were preparing to come out during the current year.

In view of the latter fact, your agent deemed it judicious not to visit the East again until those, or most of those already here and preparing to come, should be met by him, and, as far as practicable, advantageously located, agreeably to their respective occupations and means, and thus made satisfied, and willing witnesses to others of the great and varied resources of our Territory. This has been done, and the South Platte valley, below the Cache-a-la-Poudre, which two years ago was almost unknown to the farmer or husbandman, is now so closely dotted, on both sides of the river to Julesburg, with comfortable claim buildings, farm ranches, dairies and corrals, that the traveler is rarely out of sight of happy homes, where hospitable hosts are always ready to welcome and entertain him.

Since my last annual report new irrigating canals have been commenced, under the general incorporation laws of the Territory, by the different colonies represented at Greeley, Evans, Green City, South Platte, Buffalo and Sterling, and with favorable legislation, if enacted during the *early part* of the session of the next Legislature, more than 100 miles of new canals will be constructed in Weld County alone, in time for *the next crop*, covering at least 100,000 acres of excellent farming and hay lands.

A majority of the colonists have engaged in agricultural and pastoral pursuits, and are generally enthusiastic in praise of their new homes, and confident of success in their respective occupations, while a few, only too *indolent* to work, or too *ignorant* to see and realize their golden opportunities, are dissatisfied and complaining because *uncarned*

prosperity is not at once "thrust upon them" without labor or merit on their part.

Unless otherwise directed by your honorable Board, your agent will visit the States during the ensuing Spring in the interests of colonization, and with your continued favorable indorsement and kind offices, many of which I have to acknowledge at the hands of your efficient and indefatigable Secretary, he hopes and expects to accomplish still more in advancing the objects aimed at in the organization of your honorable body. Respectfully,

J. ALEXANDER PACE,

Agent Colorado Board of Immigration.

To Geo. T. Clark, Esq., Sec'y Col. Board of Immmigration, Denver, Col.

MIDDLE PARK.

PREFATORY.

George T. Clark, Secretary of Board of Immigration:

DEAR SIR:—In view of the fact that the portion of our Territory lying on the eastern, or Atlantic, slope of the Rocky Mountains, contiguous to Denver, and extending from Cheyenne and the Black Hills in the north, and away southward past the Arkansas River, and to the borders of New Mexico, is at present so occupied agriculturally and pastorally, that it renders further settlement difficult, without quite large sums of money being invested for purchasing purposes, to embark profitably in those pursuits, we look for a new field of enterprise in that direction; we have that field before us; it lies upon the Pacific slope, in western Colorado, embraced in the general limits of Summit County, extending westward to the east boundary of Utah.

DESCRIPTIVE.

The writer and his old time Colorado associates have examined this region somewhat in detail, and this report is accurate, we believe, so far as we had means of observing, and may be described essentially as follows:

Southern Portion.—Crossing the range from the South Park, over the Breckenridge pass and stage road, we reach the gold-placer diggings and gold and silver veins of that mining section, including towns of Breckenridge, (County seat of Summit County,) Lincoln City, Montezuma, Galena Gulch, Buffalo Flats, and Gold Run, with a probable population of 400 to 500, principally miners, good paying mines, with good pastoral advantages, well wooded, timbered and watered. From Breckenridge a wagon road is being built by County appropriation down the fine valley of the Blue river, some forty-five to fifty miles, touching the Grand river and entering the Middle Park just above the western boundary of the Park and the great canon of the Grand, (occurring between the Middle and Egeria Parks) thence up the Grand river to the Hot Springs, where it will intersect the direct eastern, or Denver, entrance to the Park, via the Rollins wagon road.

MIDDLE PARK.

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The Middle Park has an area of fifty by seventy-five miles, its greatest length being north and south. It is surrounded by mountain ranges and entered by mountain passes. Its entrance, heretofore, has been an arduous and difficult undertaking; but all difficulties of that nature are now removed. The Park is divided into three basins or compartments, (evidently at some period submerged) and is separated by mountain spurs, or divides, easily crossed. The altitude of the upper portion of the Park is from 7,000 to 8,000 feet; of the lower portion, 6,000 feet.

FRAZER RIVER BASIN.

The south-eastern, or Frazer Basin, is traversed by the Rollins road in its first entrance into the Park, and also by the James Peak and Berthoud routes. This has an area of say fifteen by twenty miles, and is the smallest of the three compartments. It is mostly composed of park or prairie area. The bottoms are thickly covered with excellent and

nutritous grasses, and the upland grazing is good. It is well watered by numerous streams and interspersed with groves and wooded divides of pine, spruce, fir and aspen. It is the best summer pasturage, perhaps, in the Park, but too elevated and frosty for agricultural purposes, and through winter stock would have to be fed or driven to the valley of the Grand. The Frazer, or James river, having its sources under James Peak and Berthoud Pass, runs northerly entirely through this section. Passing by the road northwesterly six miles from the Frazer, we come to a point where a road, or trail, diverges from the direct route to the Springs, which leads us northeast in six to eight miles to a recrossing of the Frazer at a point ten miles lower down and three miles above its junction with the Grand River. We now enter the second and largest of the three basins.

BASIN OF THE UPPER GRAND RIVER.

The trail at the lower Frazer crossing, just alluded to, continues its course across the Park northeasterly, crossing Grand river and following up that stream to the Grand lake, situated at the head of the South Fork of the Grand river, under Long's and the Caribou Peaks. The distance is twenty miles. This compartment, at one place, has a park or plain, width of twenty-five miles. The valleys are clothed with heavy mowing grasses, and the upper, or sage brush, plateaus are most excellent pasturage. Groves and timbered divides occur, while the entire outer circle of the whole Middle Park, approaching the base of the mountain ranges, is heavily timbered. The upper portion of this section is too cold for agricultural purposes, but the lower part is available for tillage. Cheap irrigation is available all over the Park, although, of late years, all our mountain sections need less irrigation than formerly.

Below the mouth of the Frazer, at the western extremity of this division, the Grand enters a cañon of some six miles in length, with a narrow but rich bottom, and crossed by two veins of lignite or bituminous coal. It opens out below into the valley of the Hot Springs, and the third and western of the Park Divisions.

THIRD DIVISION.

This is the centre, or main location, for a town in the Park, and a petition is now in circulation for the formation of a new county to be called Grand County, with County Seat at the Springs. Three townships have been surveyed at, below, and above the Springs. No improvements, or accommodations for visitors, or settlers, have yet been provided at this point, except the commencement of a log hotel; but such accommodations must be now forthcoming for the coming summer herds of cattle will be brought in, and actual settlement commenced. There are now 12,000 sheep in the Park for the winter, near the Springs, and in good condition, and some thirty ranches are already taken in the Park, and several colonies are contemplating a settlement there or beyond.

This lower portion of the Park is well adapted to agricultural pnrposes with a climate mild, perhaps, as Denver. Most grains and vegetables can be readily produced. tle graze through the winter with little or no feed. are many tributary streams, like William's Fork, the Blue, Muddy and Troublesome, with their minor tributaries, all having rich, alluvial bottoms, equal in richness to the valley of the Grand. This river canons below the Springs for four miles, with timbered banks, and then opens out into a broad, beautiful valley below for fifteen miles, with most excellent ranch locations, where, in former times, the old pioneer, John S. Jones, fenced his ranch, and raised 800 bushels of fine potatoes, grain, etc. Light snow only falls here during the winter. Pasturage on the upper plateaus is almost unlimited and the soil good. Timber is reached in two to four miles; and any quantity may be floated down Grand river. Grasses are free from noxious weeds and the quality of beef and butter and dairy products by such feed is unsurpassed in any country.

ROADS.

The Breckenridge road has been described. The Rollins Wagon Road takes its departure for the Park at Rollinsville, in Gilpin County, passes up the valley of the South Boulder, without crossing the stream, into the upper South Boulder Park, thence up the north fork of the South Boulder, to the foot of the snowy range, lake Jenny, and a new mining camp, a distance of twelve miles at a water grade; no climbing hills. The road is most admirably constructed It then ascends and crosses the range over the South Boulder or Rollins pass, at an altitude of 10,200 feet, with two and a half to three miles of route above timber line, but the road is good at this point, and nearly level. The route is so located that in ascending or descending the eastern and western slopes, no heavy grades are to be surmounted, and two to two and a half miles will cover the entire hill portion of the road, for the whole length in reaching the Park.

The road is open to within one-quarter of a mile of the Park, and the whole road will be completed by the 25th of May next ready for travel, and will be continued on through Middle Park and Western Colorado, and to Utah. an admirable work and is the means of opening our western Territory. Carriages and loaded teams can be driven over the road with ease and safety; and our herds of stock can be driven over this route to and from the Park, to our mines and Denver, in three or four days time, without injuring them in the least, and in good feed all the distance. From Denver to Rollinsville is forty miles. Black Hawk and Central to same place twelve miles; Rollinsville to the Park, by new road, twenty miles; from entrance of Park to Springs, fifteen to eighteen miles. There are also the Berthoud Pass into the Park from Georgetown and Empire, and the James Peak route from Central City; a covered way through one permanent snow drift of sixty rods, will allow a winter passage of this route, and that shed will be built:

TERRITORY WEST OF THE GORE PASS.

From the Hot Springs the route of the Rollins road and of the Berthoud Trail is westward through the Park, crossing Corral creek, the Troublesome and Muddy to the Gore Pass through the Rabbit-Ear range, (which is the western boundary of the Middle Park) a distance of thirty miles. The route through Gore Pass is in heavy poplar timber, seven miles at an easy grade. From the west slope of this pass, the road is down a succession of beautiful, rich, grassy valleys (the divides covered with excellent timber and well adapted for settlement) for twelve miles to the Tumbuinaro Rock and Park, in the northeastern part of the Egeria Park, and the sage brush prairie of the upper Bear River Valley; from this point the route passes northwesterly down Bear River Valley, twenty-five miles to the great sulphur springs of Bear River. The valley is two to two and a half miles in width, with rich soil and heavy grasses, well adapted both for tillage and pasturage. Fifteen miles above, and on the way down, the Berthoud route diverges to the southward, passing over into the valley of White River and through the Ute Reservation. From the Sulphur Springs the trend of Bear river is directly west, eight miles, to the mouth of Elk river.

ELK RIVER VALLEY AND MINES.

Elk river is a tributary of the Bear, coming in from the northward, and nearly its equal in size for twenty-five miles up to where it issues from the hills. The valley is exceedingly fine, with bottom land two to two and a half miles in width, the very best soil, heavily covered with red top and blue-joint grasses; ground all ready for the mowing machine if hay should be required. At the outer edge of the bottom land the valley slopes gently upward; on the west side, a distance of ten to fifteen miles from the river, and on the east side from two to five miles in width, covered with the California bunch and other grasses, for grazing, and all this soil is good for farming and tillage. Above this slope

comes scrub oak, choke-cherry and service bushes, and still above pine, spruce, fir, and cedar woodlands. Five miles above the head of this valley Willow Creek comes in from the northwest, up which, five miles, are located gold placer mines, said to be rich. They were extensively opened the past summer, and with good promise of future success. This mountain-locked valley of the Elk river is never troubled with winds—always calm.

VALLEY OF SNAKE RIVER.

Fifteen miles north of Elk river valley and mines we reach the Snake river at the three forks and where it leaves the mountain range. From this point the river runs west down a broad, splendid valley for thirty miles, where Indian corn has been raised and matured, this season; also melons, and without irrigation. Any crops can be produced here that can be raised in any portion of Colorado. toral advantages are almost unlimited. Settlers and herds of cattle are now here—one herd numbering 1,700 head. Snow rarely falls and stock is exceeding fat the year round without feed. At thirty miles below the forks the government, or Ute Agency, road from White River to Rawling's Station, on the Union Pacific Railroad, crosses the Snake river, and is traveled by these settlers; distance eighty miles. It is a good road, the upper portion of it, where it crosses the range at Bridger pass, being the old Holliday wagon road. Ninety miles below the road crossing Snake, this river enters the Bear River. The Snake river valley abounds in coal from the head to Green river. Next comes the Green river desert, or burnt country, producing sand greasewood, sage-brush and lizards, although possessing redeeming points in coal and petroleum slates, with their deposits. Returning to the eastward we take the Rollins-Berthoud route down White river for 125 miles with many very desirable locations, but principally now in the Ute Reservation, and the lower seventy-five miles is the desert, through which the White river, like the Nile, forms an oasis

in its passage to its junction with Green river, Fort Robideaux and the eastern boundary of Utah.

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P. M. SMART.





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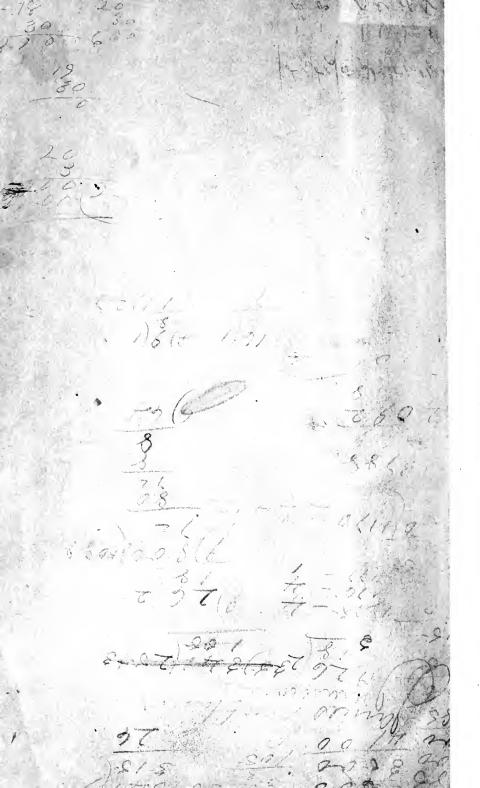
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